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MONMOUTHSHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE
PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL
OFFICER FOR THE
YEAR 1954.

GWYN ROCYN JONES,

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COUNTY HALL,
NEWPORT, MON.

JUNE, 1955

MONMOUTHSHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1954.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report upon the work of the School Health Service for the year ended 31st December, 1954.

As in previous years, the Report deals chiefly with the general scheme of medical inspection and treatment of the school children of the County, and the statistical tables have been prepared in accordance with those set out by the Ministry of Education.

The average daily attendance at schools for the whole year, including day nursery schools, was 49,466.

Staff.

Of the 26 Medical Officers on the Staff on 31st December, 1954, all were engaged in the joint work of the School Health Service and Maternity and Child Welfare.

The services of 7 Consultant Specialists were available during the year, and details of the Clinics held are mentioned later.

The School Nursing and Health Visiting Services of the Council are co-ordinated, having the services of 44 Health Visitors or School Nurses for the whole County. The actual time devoted to School Nursing was equivalent to that of 14.5 full-time nurses.

SCHEME FOR MEDICAL INSPECTION.

This has been carried out in conformity with the requirements of the Ministry of Education, a full medical examination of each child being arranged at each of three periods of school life. Infants are examined during their first year of school life and where this occurs before the child reaches the compulsory school age of five years, the examination is repeated the following year. Children at Nursery Schools are medically examined at intervals of four months, and are constantly under supervision of health visitors.

During the last year at a primary school, children receive another full medical examination before proceeding to a secondary school. A further examination is carried out during the last year of compulsory school life. In the case of these leavers the examination are arranged early in the school year so that any medical recommendations made may be dealt with before the pupil leaves school. Any pupils who continue to attend school after the age of fifteen years are medically examined each year afterwards.

In cases where defects are reported at medical inspection, action is taken to obtain further examination and treatment by reference to Consultants at our School Clinics or at Hospitals.

Inspection.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.—The numbers of children examined in the Primary and Secondary Schools were:—

Monmouthshire (excluding Abertillery and Ebbw Vale Div. Executive)					Abertillery	Ebbw Vale	Total
Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	13,023	1,768	1,734	16,525
Re-examinations and Specials	...	...	...	6,234	174	514	6,922

DENTAL INSPECTIONS.—The numbers of school children examined by the School Dentists were:—

Monmouthshire (excluding Ebbw Vale, including Abertillery)			Ebbw Vale	Total
23,685			2,569	26,254

CLEANLINESS.—The usual survey of school children was carried out by the Health Visitors:—

					Monmouthshire (excluding Ebbw Vale, including Abertillery)		Ebbw Vale	Total
Examinations made were					63,253		4,527	67,780
Number of individual pupils found unclean					3,436		146	3,582

Treatment.

The following Specialist Services were available during the year for treatment at School Clinics of children referred by School Medical Officers during their routine work:—

Clinic.	Specialist.	No. of Sessions held.
Rheumatic and Heart ...	Professor A. G. Watkins, M.D., M.R.C.S., F.R.C.P. ...	One per month.
Ear Nose and Throat ...	D. B. Sutton, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. ...	Two per month.
Surgical ...	J. T. Rice Edwards, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. ...	One per month.
Orthopaedic ...	D. N. Rocyn Jones, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S. ...	One per week.*
Ophthalmic ...	G. W. Hoare, M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. ...	One per week.*
Paediatric ...	R. Vaughan Jones, M.B., CH.B., D.O.M.S., F.R.C.S. ...	One per week.*
	T. A. Brand, M.D., CH.B., D.C.H. ...	One per month.

*In addition to the above routine clinics, Mr. Nathan Rocyn Jones held certain additional sessions bringing his total number of sessions for the year up to 77.

Mr. G. W. Hoare and Mr. R. Vaughan Jones also held a number of additional clinics.

The above Specialists held their clinics at the Central Clinic, Stanley Road, Newport, with the exception of Mr. D. N. Rocyn Jones, who visited various County Clinics as the demand arose.

Children requiring plastic surgery for defects such as hare-lip, cleft-palate, severe scarring, etc., were referred to Mr. Emlyn Lewis, F.R.C.S., who held out-patients clinics at St. Lawrence Plastic Surgery Hospital, Chepstow, and also at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport. The operations were carried out at the St. Lawrence Hospital.

School Clinics.

Details of School Clinics, their situation and types of cases treated or examined during 1954, are as follows:—

<i>Situation.</i>	<i>Average No. of Weekly Sessions.</i>	<i>Nature of School Clinics held.</i>
Central School Clinic, Stanley Road, Newport.	2.5 0.25 3.0 0.2 0.25 0.25 3.0 4.0 2.25 10.0 1.0 0.5 2.0	Ophthalmic, treatment and consultation. General Surgical, consultation. Ear, Nose and Throat, consultation and treatment. Orthopaedic, treatment and consultation. Paediatric, consultation. Heart and Rheumatic, consultation. Orthoptic, treatment. Speech Therapy, treatment. Dental (including Orthodontic). Physiotherapy, treatment. Minor Ailments, treatment. Miscellaneous medical examinations. Defective vision, refractions.
Ashgrove House, George Street, Pontypool.	7.0 2.0 4.0 0.2	Dental (including Orthodontic). Defective vision, refractions. Speech Therapy. Orthopaedic.
Beaumont House, Bloomfield Road, Blackwood.	8.0 2.0 0.2 6.0	Dental (including Orthodontic). Defective vision, refractions. Orthopaedic. Speech Therapy.
School Clinic, 59, Commercial Street, Abertillery	6.0 2.0 0.2 6.0 2.0	Dental Defective vision, refractions. Orthopaedic. Speech Therapy. Minor Ailments.
School Clinic, Armoury Hill, Ebbw Vale.	4.0 2.0 0.2 2.0 4.0	Dental. Defective vision, refractions. Orthopaedic. Minor Ailments. Speech Therapy.
School Clinic, Church Street, Tredegar.	2.0 2.0 4.0	Dental. Defective vision, refractions. Speech Therapy.
School Clinic, Boverton House, Chepstow.	1.5 0.2 0.5 2.0	Dental. Orthopaedic. Mobile Clinic visits for defective vision refractions. Speech Therapy.
School Clinic, Old Barclay's Bank Buildings, Rhymney.	1.0	Dental.

<i>Situation.</i>	<i>Average No. of Weekly Sessions.</i>	<i>Nature of School Clinics held.</i>
School Clinic, Health Centre, Blaenavon.	2.0	Dental.
School Clinic, Park Place, Risca.	3.0 0.25	Dental. Defective vision, refractions.
Workmen's Hall, Llanhilleth.	0.5 1.0	Dental. Minor Ailments.
Leven House, Abergavenny.	2.0	Speech Therapy.
School Clinic, Ty Brith, Usk.	0.25 0.25	Mobile Clinic visits for Dental Treatment. Mobile Clinic visits for Defective vision refractions.
School Clinic, Ashfield Road, Newbridge.	5.0 2.0 0.2	Dental. Speech Therapy. Orthopaedic.

MOBILE SCHOOL CLINIC.

A modern travelling School Clinic was used entirely for Dental Treatment in country areas.

A similar vehicle, equipped for refractions, was used in similar areas for treatment of defective vision.

Except in the cases of the School Clinics at Ebbw Vale, Church Street, Tredegar, and the Mobile Dental Clinic, all the premises were also used for the work of Maternity and Child Welfare.

All school children attended the Clinics by appointment. In the case of certain emergency dental treatment, however, every effort was made for the treatment to be given with as little delay as possible.

Speech Therapy.

The services of Miss Mary Knight were available as Speech Therapist during the whole of 1954, but Miss M. Watkins resigned her part-time appointment on March 31st, 1954. No replacement for Miss Watkins was obtained until September 1st, 1954, when Miss Una Jones was appointed part-time. She also worked part-time at St. Lawrence Hospital, Chepstow, as an officer of the Regional Hospital Board. Two full-time Speech Therapists, Miss G. Oldbury and Miss Keri Powell, were also appointed on September 1st.

Speech Therapy Clinics were held from September 1st, 1954, to December 31st, 1954, as follows:—

Abertillery	...	...	...	...	6	half-day sessions per week.
Blackwood	...	...	...	...	6	" " " "
Pontypool	...	...	...	...	4	" " " "
Ebbw Vale	...	...	...	...	4	" " " "
Newport	...	...	...	...	4	" " " "
Tredegar	...	...	...	...	4	" " " "
Newbridge	...	...	...	...	2	" " " "
Chepstow	...	...	...	...	2	" " " "
Abergavenny	...	...	...	...	2	" " " "

The sessions were arranged so that the children could attend at least weekly, and in the majority of cases, every three or four days. Approximately half-an-hour's treatment was given on each attendance, and a course of treatment was, on the average, of five months' duration.

Of the 306 children who were treated during the year, 28 were discharged as not being in need of further treatment, 36 for non-attendance, and 2 owing to unsuitability.

Orthoptic Treatment.

The Orthoptic Clinic at Stanley Road, Newport, was continued during 1954, having the services of Mrs. H. M. Gregory (née Davies) two half-day sessions per week until August 31st, when she increased her attendance to three sessions per week. The Orthoptic Clinic was under the direct supervision of the Ophthalmic Surgeons at the School Clinic, and treated cases of squint by means of exercises, etc. Measurement of angle of squint was carried out as required by eye specialists, and also cases treated by occlusion, etc.

During the year, 145 new cases were examined at the Orthoptic Clinic, and a total of 898 attendances were made. 25 cases were discharged from the Clinic, 6 of which were cured, 8 improved and not likely to benefit from further treatment, 4 as having no squint and 7 unsuitable for treatment. 258 appointments were not kept.

Operative Treatment for Squint.

Following their examinations at the School Clinic, suitable cases for eye operations were referred by the Ophthalmic Surgeons to the County Hospital, Griffithstown. 113 cases were operated upon for squint during the year.

Ear, Nose and Throat Ailments.

There continues to be a large demand for Ear, Nose and Throat treatment of school children and, as in previous years, a special clinic was held once or twice weekly at the Central Newport Clinic. Here cases were primarily examined by a Medical Officer who has had considerable experience in the work, and cases suitably dealt with either with treatment on the spot, by reference direct to a Hospital or by reference to a visiting specialist at the School Clinic.

Many cases of children requiring operative treatment for tonsils and/or adenoids were notified direct to this Department by private practitioners, and were referred direct to the County Hospital, Griffithstown, or The Aberbargoed and District Hospital, where they were re-examined by the visiting Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon.

During the year 1954, 93 operating sessions were held at the County Hospital, Griffithstown, by Mr. J. L. D. Williams, F.R.C.S., for removal of tonsils and/or adenoids. 807 cases were operated upon, including cases where proof-puncture of antrum was also carried out. 377 names were removed from the waiting list following a preliminary examination by the surgeon, or for other reasons. There were also 82 preliminary consultation sessions, at which 1,106 children were examined, and 90 children re-examined.

The number of names added to the waiting list at the County Hospital during the year was 1,136 as compared with 1,208 in 1953, and the number on the list on 31st December, 1954, was 194, compared with 242 in 1953.

At the Aberbargoed and District Hospital 333 operations were carried out by Mr. Peter Thorpe, F.R.C.S., for removal of tonsils and/or adenoids. A further number of children were given a preliminary examination, and found not to require operation.

A further 369 operations were carried out in the area of the Divisional Executive.

General Surgical Treatment.

Mr. J. T. Rice Edwards carried out a monthly clinic for cases where a general surgeon's opinion was required. When operative measures were advised, the treatment was arranged by the Medical Superintendent of the County Hospital, Griffithstown, at which hospital the operations were carried out. Follow-up of post-operation cases was also arranged at the clinic. 66 new cases were examined and there was a total attendance of 119.

Paediatric Clinic.

The Clinic was under the care of Dr. T. A. Brand, and cases of obscure children's ailments were referred to him. Children who were likely to be grouped under the heading of Delicate Pupils were examined by him, and where recommendation was made for admission to a Special School, arrangements were made to that end. 49 new cases were examined and there were 125 attendances.

Heart and Rheumatic Clinic.

A monthly clinic was held by Professor A. G. Watkins, at which he examined 58 new cases. These, together with re-examination cases, made a total attendance of 276. 2 cases were recommended for immediate admission to hospital, and they were taken into the County Hospital, Griffithstown.

Neurological Clinic.

At the end of 1953, the services of Dr. R. Wyburn Mason were withdrawn from our School Clinic by the Regional Hospital Board, and during 1954 cases of epilepsy, etc., were referred to other medical specialists.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

The large number of orthopaedic defects coming to the notice of this Department were referred to Mr. D. N. Rocyn Jones. Cases recommended by him for physiotherapy were treated either at the Orthopaedic Clinic situated at our Newport School Clinic, or one of the convenient local hospitals. Appliances, where prescribed, were supplied through the Regional Hospital Board. There was also a follow-up Clinic held by our Orthopaedic Sister for the general supervision of appliances, etc.

There were 1,446 attendances at Mr. Rocyn Jones' Clinic, 600 of which were new cases.

At our Newport School Clinic premises 97 new cases attended for physiotherapy with a total of 1,905 attendances.

Tuberculosis.

81 children were referred by School Medical Officers for examination by Chest Physicians, and the results of the examinations were:—

	Total Cases	Positive Results	Doubtful Results
For examination re Lungs	77	—	3
For examination re Glands	2	—	1
For examination re Spine or Bones	2	—	—

Other Treatment.

Details of other treatment given may be found in later pages.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER.

The County School Dental Service was carried out under the supervision of Mr. E. F. Sumner, L.D.S., R.C.S., and he was assisted for the whole of 1954 by Mrs. Greta McHarg, L.D.S., Mr. John C. Morley, L.D.S., and Mr. D. J. Coughlin as full-time dentists with the part-time services of Mr. W. S. Hazell,

L.D.S., R.C.S., in the Ebbw Vale area of the Ebbw Vale, Abertillery, Nantyglo and Blaina Divisional Executive Committee.

Dental treatment was carried out on our own School Clinic premises situated in various parts of the County. The surgeries were all fitted with up-to-date equipment, and X-ray facilities were also available. A modern mobile dental surgery catered for the needs of the rural areas, visits being made to the country schools as required.

Table V sets out details of the numbers of school children inspected and treated, and in addition 342 cases of children requiring orthodontic treatment were dealt with. 1,667 attendances were made at orthodontic clinics and 146 regulation appliances were made by County dental technicians and supplied. In addition 2 complete and 125 partial dentures were supplied. Repairs to existing dentures were also carried out. X-ray investigations were carried out in 130 cases.

The School Dental Hygienist continued to work under the close supervision of the Principal Dental Officer. She undertook the treatment of children requiring dental scaling and polishing, and also provided sodium fluoride local applications. 1,631 children received treatment by scaling and polishing, involving 2,256 attendances. 1,671 cases were referred for treatment following school dental inspections. The Dental Hygienist treated certain cases in conjunction with the Orthodontist.

PROVISION OF SCHOOL MEALS AND MILK (INCLUDING THE DIVISIONAL EXECUTIVE AREA).

There are at present 233 School Canteens providing meals, free of charge or on payment, to 325 School Departments.

The average daily number of children provided with meals is as follows:—

Free	2,235
On Payment	15,272
	<hr/>
Total	17,507
	<hr/>

Milk is supplied free of charge for drinking purposes.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

The sub-joined table gives details of the Handicapped Pupils on the register.

Suitable education of all the children in the various categories of Handicapped Pupils is indeed a difficult problem, each requiring, as it does, specialised treatment. In a County Area there seems to be no other method than the residential school system, except in the cases of certain educationally sub-normal pupils who may be dealt with in special classes in ordinary schools in the more densely populated areas. Not having all types of special schools in our County, resort has, in some cases, to be made to the use of schools under the control of other Authorities. We have, however, a residential school at Hilston Park, Monmouth, which caters for educationally sub-normal boys, of 11 to 16 years of age, and one at The Mount, Chepstow, taking maladjusted boys of 7 to 11 years of age.

We also have a Special Residential School for Delicate Pupils at Moun-ton House, Pwllmeyric, near Chepstow, accommodating 39 boys and 31 girls between the ages of 5 years and 16 years. A number of places were reserved for the use of children nominated by the County Borough of Newport Education Committee.

Blind and Partially Blind pupils are admitted to special schools by arrangement with the Authorities who have such institutions and have accommodation for cases in addition to their own. This also applies to Deaf pupils.

Spastic children present a very special problem, by virtue of the degree of their physical and mental handicap, and in the past many have been deemed to be ineducable and registered as mentally defective, and who, had their exact nature of their disability been diagnosed and treated and training instituted at an early age, might have been able to take a normal place in life. In the light of modern knowledge, and in the interests of the children, it was decided in the last quarter of the year to undertake an exhaustive survey of all the children so disabled in the County to ascertain how best their needs could be met. Certain of these children have been admitted to the Occupation Centre, Neville House, Garndiffaith, and in consequence of intensive observation and treatment, one at least has been proved educable. Cases were notified by Health Visitors, etc., and all were immediately assessed by Mr. D. Nathan Rocyn Jones, F.R.C.S., who recommended and supervised physical treatment. Cerebral Palsy children attending the Occupation Centre had daily physiotherapy by one of the supervisors, under the directive of a physiotherapist, specially skilled in cerebral palsy therapy, from the Regional Hospital Board Orthopaedic Clinic. A considerable expansion of this work is envisaged when the survey is completed.

Dr. R. Wyburn Mason ceased to hold clinics at the Central Clinic, Stanley Road, Newport. A record is maintained of Epileptic children, and their medical care is now carried on by the family doctor and consultant physicians at the Regional Hospital Board Hospital clinics. Admission to special schools and institutions for suitable cases has been maintained.

In cases of multiple defects, where there is mental retardation, particular difficulty is experienced in their placement, as normal intelligence is usually required to enable the pupil to benefit from the special methods of education.

During the year 1954, 178 pupils were examined for the first time under Section 34 of the Education Act, 1944. 113 were examined under Section 57.

As a result of examination by a specially approved Assistant Medical Officer under Section 34 of the Education Act, 1944, and re-examination under Section 57 (3) of the same Act, 34 pupils (21 boys and 13 girls) were transferred to the care of the Local Health Authority as being incapable of receiving education at school. Under Section 57 (5) of the same Act, certain pupils were specially examined during the last term of attendance at school and 25 (19 boys and 6 girls) transferred to the care of the Local Health Authority as requiring supervision after leaving school.

There was also one girl examined under Section 57 (4).

24 pupils were referred to the Principal School Medical Officer for examination under Section 34 of the Education Act, 1944, as being possibly educationally sub-normal and also 1 as maladjusted, but on investigation were not found to fall within these categories.

Handicapped Pupils.

	<i>No. admitted to Special Schools during 1954. (a)</i>	<i>No. in Special Schools on Jan. 1st, 1953, and for whole or part of 1954 (b)</i>	<i>No. not in Special Schools. (c)</i>	<i>Total on Register. (d)</i>		
Blind Pupils	1	11	—	12		
Partially Sighted	—	7	9	16		
Deaf	1	34	11	46		
Partially Deaf	1	1	9	11		
Delicate	40	51	87	178 ⁽¹⁾		
Epileptic	4	1	8	13 ⁽²⁾		
Physically Handicapped..	6 ⁽³⁾	12	30	48		
Speech Defect	—	— ⁽⁴⁾	9	9		
Multiple Defects	13	26	53	92 ⁽⁵⁾		
			<i>Total number on register recommended for Special School.</i>	<i>No. under observa- tion.</i>	<i>Tuition in or- dinary schools and not requir- ing Residential Treatment.</i>	<i>Total on Register.</i>
Educationally Sub-normal	22 ⁽⁶⁾	20 ^(7 & 8)	167	127	164	500 ⁽⁹⁾
Maladjusted	2 ^(10 & 11)	10 ^(12 & 13)	30	17	4	63 ⁽¹⁴⁾

(1) Excluding 1 transferred to Local Health Authority, 1954.

(2) Excluding 3 transferred to Local Health Authority, 1954.

(3) Excluding 1 admitted to a Delicate School in 1954.

(4) Excluding 1 in a Special School for Delicate Pupils.

(5) Excluding 7 transferred to Local Health Authority, 1954.

(6) Excluding 6 admitted to Special Schools where main defect is not Educationally Sub-Normal.

(7) Excluding 3 in Special Educationally Sub-Normal Schools admitted by Educational Psychologist.

(8) Excluding 9 in Special Schools where primary defect is not Educationally Sub-Normal.

(9) Excluding 60 transferred to Local Health Authority.

(10) Excluding 2 admitted by Educational Psychologist.

(11) Excluding 6 admitted to Special Schools where main defect is not Maladjusted.

(12) Excluding 4 admitted by Educational Psychologist.

(13) Excluding 3 in Special Schools where main defect is not Maladjusted.

(14) Excluding 1 transferred to Local Health Authority, 1954.

Convalescence.

Four children were in Convalescent Homes during the year. The usual period of residence was four or six weeks. These were cases where school children were found to be suffering from debility as a result of illness, etc., and to require a period of special convalescence.

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

During the first half of 1954 arrangements were made for tuberculin skin tests to be carried out on most of the school entrants and leavers during the school year. An explanatory letter was sent to the parent of each pupil, asking for consent for the proposed investigation and for X-ray examination if necessary or advised. The distribution of the letters was effected by the co-operation of Head Teachers, who gave information as to the numbers required. 13,188 letters and consent forms were sent out and 7,970 consents received, a consent rate of 60%. 198 schools were visited by medical officers and in the main Jelly Patch Tests were carried out, some of which were confirmed later by Mantoux tests.

Skin tests were carried out on 2,698 entrants and positive results were obtained in 228 cases, a rate of 8%. In the case of leavers', skin tests were carried out on 2,295 pupils, and of these 1,541 yielded positive results, a percentage of 67 of the leavers tested. Unfortunately many pupils were absent or not available at the time of the visit for the application of the test or its later reading.

As part of the whole scheme for the prevention of tuberculosis in schools, arrangements were made with the Mass Radiography Service of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board for X-ray examination of many of the same pupils, for whom parent's consent had been obtained. A mobile X-ray unit visited the County in July, 1954, and investigation of school children was carried out at 10 centres, 5 of which were at schools. The centres were as widely distributed as possible, and were placed so as to be within easy reach of the greatest possible number of pupils from their respective schools. Where the distance was too great for walking, free transport was provided to and fro. All parties of pupils were accompanied by a teacher or teachers. Arrangements were made for all the consenting leavers to attend for X-ray examination together with all entrants who had given a positive tuberculin skin test but here again many of the leavers did not attend, although it was pleasing to note that nearly all of the recommended entrants attended with a parent. In no case was there any evidence of active tuberculosis in an entrant, but 4 cases of healed primary tuberculosis, 11 of calcified nodes, etc., and 1 of bony abnormality were reported.

2,414 leavers attended for X-ray examination. 3 cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis were diagnosed and referred to the care of the Chest Physician. There were also 3 cases of healed primary tuberculosis and 18 cases of bony or other abnormality.

One of the cases of active tuberculosis, and who attended a school in the Blaenavon area, was diagnosed as an adult type of case, and it was recommended that the whole school should be investigated. Accordingly one of our medical officers attended and carried out 292 Mantoux Skin Tests on 289 pupils and 3 teachers. 196 positive results were obtained, and 16 were doubtful. Following this, the Mass Radiography Unit visited the School and X-rayed 264 pupils and 13 teachers. No cases of active tuberculosis were found but there were 4 cases of healed post-primary pulmonary tuberculosis and 2 of bony abnormality.

Following the notification of a case of active tuberculosis in a member of the staff at a Junior Mixed School in the Pontillanfraith area, all the pupils in the school were investigated by the Mass Radiography Service and the Area Chest Physician. 273 Mantoux Skin Tests were carried out, yielding 24 positive results, 247 negative and 2 doubtful. X-ray examinations, which included some children who were not skin tested, gave 283 normal results and 15 children were recalled for large films. No case of active tuberculosis was found.

The diagnosis of active tuberculosis in a teacher at a school in the Bassaleg area resulted in an investigation in which 79 pupils were Mantoux skin tested and 4 showed positive results. 80 children were X-rayed and all were reported free from active tuberculosis.

A nursery school was investigated following the notification of tuberculosis in a child there. 34 children and 5 staff were reported to be radiologically clear.

A maid at a special school for handicapped pupils having been notified as a case of tuberculosis, the whole school was examined by X-ray. 50 pupils and 13 of the staff were reported clear, but 2 pupils were kept under observation by the Chest Physician and 1 of the staff recalled for further examinations.

About the middle of 1954, in addition to the above, the Mass Radiography Service was carrying out extensive surveys on the general population and schools in the Monmouth, Pontypool and Abersychan areas and a large number of school children in these areas were examined by skin tests and X-rays by that Service, with which my department co-operated to the fullest extent.

Large scale investigations of the kind described required a good deal of detailed planning, and I should like to express my thanks to the Welsh Regional Hospital Board Mass Radiography Service Staff for their assistance and co-operation and also to our Director of Education's Special Service Department for so efficiently arranging the provision of transport.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF ENTRANTS TO COURSES OF TRAINING FOR TEACHING, AND TO THE TEACHING PROFESSION.

In accordance with the directions given in the Ministry of Education Circular No. 249, medical examinations of candidates for admission to Teachers' Training Colleges were carried out and completed forms 4 R.T.C. were forwarded to the respective Principals. In addition, medical examinations, including X-ray of chest by chest physicians were carried out and reported on Form 28 R.Q. The following tables set out the number of examinations, and results :—

On Form 4 R. T.C.		
<i>Medical Category.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
A.1	63	119
A.2	19	34
B.1	3	2
B.2	—	—
C.	—	—
Total	85	155

On Form 28 R.Q.		
<i>Medical Category.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
A.1	10	7
A.2	1	1
C.	1	—

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN.

Under the Byelaws made on the 5th of April, 1949, by the Monmouthshire County Council in respect of employment of children and street trading, 223 children were medically examined by School Medical Officers during the year. The examination was required in order to ensure that such employment would not be prejudicial to a child's health or physical development and would not render him/her unfit to obtain proper benefit from education at school.

ACCIDENTS TO SCHOLARS AT SCHOOL.

Cases in which pupils had sustained accidents within the precincts of the Committee's Schools were notified by Head Teachers to the Director of Education, and a copy forwarded to my Department. In order to safeguard the interests of the Education Committee each child was visited by a School Nurse as soon as possible after the notification in order to see that proper medical attention had been obtained. 435 such visits were made during the year.

MISCELLANEOUS MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

During 1954, 147 medical examinations were carried out by School Medical Officers, and these included applicants for posts as school canteen workers, etc. There were also a certain number of examinations carried out at the request of the Youth Employment Officer in cases where school leavers had missed the routine School Medical Inspection owing to absence.

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.

Monmouthshire. (Not including the Divisional Executive Area).

TABLE I

Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools.

A. PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.*

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,909
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,555
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,257
										<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,721
Number of other Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,302
										<hr/>
Grand Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,023
										<hr/>

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	985
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,249
								<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,234
								<hr/>

C. PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL PUPILS FOUND AT PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS TO REQUIRE TREATMENT
(excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

Group (1)	For Defective Vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA (3)	Total individual pupils (4)
Entrants	70	787	740
Second Age Group	227	380	573
Third Age Group	234	278	488
Total	531	1,445	1,801
Other Periodic Inspections	21	146	166
Grand Total	552	1,591	1,967

*See Scheme for Medical Inspection on page 1.

TABLE II

A. Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection during the Year.

Defects Code No.	Defect or Disease (1)	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS No. of Defects		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS No. of Defects	
		Requiring treatment (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment (3)	Requiring treatment (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment (5)
4.	Skin	56	173	—	14
5.	Eyes—				
	(a) Vision ...	552	477	86	70
	(b) Squint ...	113	136	12	22
	(c) Other ...	20	50	3	7
6.	Ears—				
	(a) Hearing ...	43	98	10	17
	(b) Otitis Media ...	68	103	3	13
	(c) Other ...	8	48	1	6
7.	Nose or Throat ...	415	892	73	119
8.	Speech	53	107	30	28
9.	Cervical Glands ...	53	283	6	27
10.	Heart and Circulation ...	30	250	7	46
11.	Lungs	78	394	10	71
12.	Developmental—				
	(a) Hernia ...	8	20	3	—
	(b) Other ...	19	111	1	15
13.	Orthopaedic—				
	(a) Posture ...	113	231	11	28
	(b) Flat Foot ...	277	253	12	40
	(c) Other ...	121	240	19	29
14.	Nervous System—				
	(a) Epilepsy ...	7	26	3	15
	(b) Other ...	22	73	1	14
15.	Psychological—				
	(a) Development ...	34	69	32	29
	(b) Stability ...	7	41	9	13
16.	Other	46	59	8	18

B. Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected during the Year in the Age Groups.

AGE GROUPS.	No. of pupils inspected.	(A) (Good)		B (Fair)		C (Poor)	
		No.	% of col 2	No.	% of col 2	No.	% of col 2
Entrants (1)	(2) 4,909	(3) 2,173	(4) 44.3	(5) 2,651	(6) 54.0	(7) 85	(8) 1.7
Second Age Group	3,555	1,520	42.8	1,975	55.5	60	1.7
Third Age Group	3,257	1,810	55.5	1,406	43.2	41	1.3
Other Periodic Inspections ..	1,302	1,291	99.1	6	0.5	5	0.4
Total	13,023	6,794	52.1	6,038	46.4	191	1.5

TABLE III.

(Including the Abertillery, Nantyglo & Blaina Area).

Infestation with Vermin.

(1) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons	63,253
(2) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	3,436
(3) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (2) Education Act, 1944)	—
(4) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (3) Education Act, 1944)	—

TABLE IV.

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS).

Group I.—Diseases of the Skin (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table III).

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	1	11
(ii) Body	—	2
Scabies	—	—
Impetigo	—	—
Other skin diseases	17	49
Total	18	62

Group II.—Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint.

	Number of cases dealt with.	
	<i>By the Authority.</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	20	2
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	1,278*	697
Total	1,298	699
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were—		
(a) Prescribed	732*	231
(b) Obtained	Not known	Not known

Group III.—Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat.

	Number of cases treated.	
	<i>By the Authority.</i>	<i>Otherwise.</i>
Received operative treatment—		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	—
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	1,140
(c) for other nose and throat conditions		416
Received other forms of treatment	249	1
Total	249	1,557

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	9 only known	
	<i>By the Authority.</i>	<i>Otherwise.</i>
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patient departments	140	463

Group V. and VI.—Child Guidance Treatment and Speech Therapy.

	Number of cases treated.	
	<i>By the Authority.</i>	<i>Otherwise.</i>
Pupils treated—		
(a) under Child Guidance arrangements	—	1
(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements	306	Not known

*Including cases dealt with under arrangements with the Supplementary Ophthalmic Services.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY.

(This Table includes the Abertillery, Nantyglo and Blaina Area of the Divisional Executive.)

(i) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—										
(a) Periodic age groups	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,685
(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	757
Total (1)										24,442
<hr/>										
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,918
(3) Number offered treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,696
(4) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,184
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,300
<hr/>										
(6) Half-days devoted to: Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	178
Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,399
Total (6)										1,577
<hr/>										
(7) Fillings: Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,586
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Total (7)										4,586

(8) Number of teeth filled:	Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,422
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
									<hr/>
Total (8)									4,422
									<hr/>
(9) Extractions:	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,868
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,037
									<hr/>
Total (9)									21,905
									<hr/>
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,971
									<hr/>
(11) Other operations:	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
									<hr/>
Total (11)									—
									<hr/>

Abertillery and Nantyglo & Blaina Areas of the Divisional Executive.

TABLE 1

Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools.

A. PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.*

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	321
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,033
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	414
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,768
Number of other Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Grand Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,768

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	112
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	174

C. PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

**NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL PUPILS FOUND AT PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS TO REQUIRE TREATMENT
(excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).**

Group	For Defective Vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	2	36	38
Second Age Group	41	66	107
Third Age Group	14	16	30
Total	57	118	175
Other Periodic Inspections	—	—	—
Grand Total	57	118	175

*See Scheme for Medical Inspection on page 1.

TABLE II

A. Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection during the Year.

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease (1)	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS No. of Defects		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS No. of Defects	
		Requiring treatment (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment (3)	Requiring treatment (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment (5)
4.	Skin	9	8	6	—
5.	Eyes—				
	(a) Vision ...	57	4	—	—
	(b) Squint ...	6	6	—	—
	(c) Other ...	1	1	—	4
6.	Ears—				
	(a) Hearing ...	—	9	—	9
	(b) Otitis Media	1	—	19	6
	(c) Other ...	3	—	—	—
7.	Nose or Throat ...	37	75	—	17
8.	Speech	18	—	2	1
9.	Cervical Glands ...	—	10	—	—
10.	Heart and Circulation ...	2	4	—	11
11.	Lungs	2	14	—	14
12.	Developmental—				
	(a) Hernia ...	—	—	—	—
	(b) Other ...	—	2	2	4
13.	Orthopaedic—				
	(a) Posture ...	4	—	2	1
	(b) Flat Foot ...	27	8	—	—
	(c) Other ...	7	5	1	3
14.	Nervous System—				
	(a) Epilepsy ...	—	2	1	—
	(b) Other ...	—	4	—	6
15.	Psychological—				
	(a) Development	—	2	—	—
	(b) Stability ...	—	3	—	3
16.	Other	1	—	—	—

TABLE III.

Infestation with Vermin.

TABLE IV.

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS).

Group I.—Diseases of the Skin (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table III).

										Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year	
										By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Ringworm—	(i) Scalp	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
	(ii) Body	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	—
Other skin diseases		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	130	—
Total										164	—

Group II.—Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint.

	Number of cases dealt with.	
	<i>By the Authority.</i>	<i>Otherwise.</i>
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	16	—
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	293	—
Total	309	—
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were—	164*	—
(a) Prescribed	Not known	—
(b) Obtained		—

Group III.—Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat.

	Number of cases treated.	
	<i>By the Authority.</i>	<i>Otherwise.</i>
Received operative treatment—		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	5
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	184
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	—	5
Received other forms of treatment	23	3
Total	23	197

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	Included in figures on page 16.		
					<table><tr><td><i>By the Authority.</i></td><td><i>Otherwise.</i></td></tr></table>	<i>By the Authority.</i>	<i>Otherwise.</i>
<i>By the Authority.</i>	<i>Otherwise.</i>						
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patient departments					Included in figures on page 16.		

Group V. and VI.—Child Guidance Treatment and Speech Therapy.

	Number of cases treated.	
	<i>By the Authority.</i>	<i>Otherwise.</i>
Pupils treated—		
(a) under Child Guidance arrangements	Included in figures on page 16.	
(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements		

Group VII.—Other Treatment Given.

							<i>Number of cases treated.</i>	
							<i>By the Authority.</i>	<i>Otherwise.</i>
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments	...	...	...	...	...	...	614	—
(b) Other (specify)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Total							614	—

*Including cases dealt with under arrangements with the Supplementary Ophthalmic Services.

TABLE V.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY.

These details are included in the figures given in the Table on page 17.

Ebbw Vale Area of the Divisional Executive.

TABLE I

Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools.

A. PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.*

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	416
Second Age Group	713
Third Age Group	605

Total	1,734
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Number of other Periodic Inspections	—
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Grand Total	1,734
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B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	162
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Number of Re-Inspections	352
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Total	514
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C. PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL PUPILS FOUND AT PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS TO REQUIRE TREATMENT
(excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

Group (1)	For Defective Vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA (3)	Total individual pupils (4)
Entrants	19	60	76
Second Age Group	111	106	193
Third Age Group	93	206	259
Total	223	372	528
Other Periodic Inspections	—	—	—
Grand Total	223	372	528

*See Scheme for Medical Inspection on page 1.

A. Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection during the Year.

TABLE II

Defects Code No.	Defect or Disease (1)	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS No. of Defects		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS No. of Defects	
		Requiring treatment (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment (3)	Requiring treatment (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment (5)
4.	Skin	15	19	11	1
5.	Eyes—				
	(a) Vision ...	223	24	10	1
	(b) Squint ...	11	15	6	5
	(c) Other ...	12	9	1	—
6.	Ears—				
	(a) Hearing ...	9	14	2	3
	(b) Otitis Media	6	19	1	2
	(c) Other ...	50	5	10	—
7.	Nose or Throat ...	49	118	32	12
8.	Speech	9	18	1	3
9.	Cervical Glands ...	—	19	—	—
10.	Heart and Circulation ...	—	22	2	2
11.	Lungs	9	73	8	18
12.	Developmental—				
	(a) Hernia ...	5	5	2	—
	(b) Other ...	2	16	1	—
13.	Orthopaedic—				
	(a) Posture ...	10	15	3	—
	(b) Flat Foot ...	15	31	4	1
	(c) Other ...	16	27	5	1
14.	Nervous System—				
	(a) Epilepsy ...	1	3	1	—
	(b) Other ...	—	11	—	1
15.	Psychological—				
	(a) Development	—	2	1	1
	(b) Stability ...	—	2	—	1
16.	Other	153	19	9	2

Group II.—Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint.

									Number of cases dealt with.	
									By the Authority.	Otherwise.
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	...	...							10	—
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	...	...	...	...	...				353	—
								Total	363	—
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were—										
(a) Prescribed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		175	—
(b) Obtained	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		Not known	—

Group III.—Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat.

									Number of cases treated.	
									By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Received operative treatment—										
(a) for diseases of the ear	...	...	...	...	...				—	3
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	...				—	185
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	...	...	...	...	...				—	12
Received other forms of treatment	...	...	...	...	...				40	1
								Total	40	201

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	...	...	...	...					5	
									By the Authority.	Otherwise.
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patient departments									—	125

Group V and VI.—Child Guidance Treatment and Speech Therapy.

									Number of cases treated.	
									By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Pupils treated—										
(a) under Child Guidance arrangements	...	...	...	...					—	—
(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements	...	...	...	...					Included in figures on page 16	

*Including cases dealt with under arrangements with the Supplementary Ophthalmic Services.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY.

(1)	Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—								2,569
	(a) Periodic age groups	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	340
	(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
							Total (1)	...	2,909
									1,851
(2)	Number found to require treatment							...	1,796
(3)	Number offered treatment							...	1,345
(4)	Number actually treated							...	1,360
(5)	Attendances made by pupils for treatment							...	
									13
(6)	Half-days devoted to: Inspection							...	159
	Treatment							...	
							Total (6)	...	172
									535
(7)	Fillings: Permanent Teeth							...	3
	Temporary Teeth							...	
							Total (7)	...	538
									431
(8)	Number of teeth filled: Permanent Teeth							...	3
	Temporary Teeth							...	
							Total (8)	...	434
									748
(9)	Extractions: Permanent Teeth							...	2,025
	Temporary Teeth							...	
							Total (9)	...	2,773

(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,025
(11) Other operations: Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Total (11) ...							17

The Education Act of 1944 directs that free medical treatment shall be provided for all pupils in attendance at Schools and County Colleges maintained by the Authority, whilst under the National Health Service Act of 1946 the free services of a family doctor are available to every child. All this has resulted in a very comprehensive scheme of medical attention for all school children and the valuable co-operation of general practitioners, consultant specialists and hospital staffs with your own medical, dental, nursing and other ancillary staff, is deserving of high praise. The large majority of parents are also most co-operative, although there are cases in which they show indifference to their child's health. In cases like these the tact and persuasion of the school nurse is invaluable and almost always effective.

I am grateful to my clerical staff for their consistent support and for their efficient, tactful and cheerful fulfilment of their duties.

My sincere thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee for their un-failing co-operation and assistance, and also to the Director of Education and his staff for the help rendered to my Department during the year.

County Hall,

Newport, Mon.

June, 1955.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. ROCYN JONES,

Principal School Medical Officer.

